

South Carolina Education Oversight Committee

Minutes of the Meeting

July 27-28, 2000

Members Present: Mr. Barnet, Mrs. Berry, Senator Bryan, Representative Harrell, Mrs. Hoag, Mr. McTeer, Mr. Martin, Senator Matthews, Mr. Spann, Mr. Staton, Mrs. Thompson

Welcome and Introduction

Mr. Barnet welcomed members to the Madren Conference Center at Clemson University. He thanked them for dedicating two days to discussion and planning. He announced the resignation of Stefan Wilson from the Committee. Mr. Wilson has been transferred to Colorado.

Mr. Barnet outlined the work of the meeting, including definition of critical short and long-term factors for success and establishment of goals for the next twelve months.

Minutes of June 17

The minutes of June 17 were approved as distributed.

Subcommittee Reports and Discussion of the Ratings

Each subcommittee outlined the critical activities and issues of the past year. There was considerable discussion on the need to maintain energy on the issues of parent involvement, expansion of communication efforts, focused EIA spending, and the development of school and district ratings.

The Committee reviewed technical proposals regarding the ratings.

Presentation by Dr. John Augenblick

Dr. Evelyn Berry, Mrs. Ellen Henderson and Dr. John Augenblick met with the Committee to discuss a finance model for the teaching of standards and results at a specified level.

[The Committee adjourned for the evening]

Executive Session

The Committee went into Executive Session for discussion of a personnel matter. At the conclusion of the discussion, the committee voted to end Executive Session.

Ratings Discussion with Educators

The Committee authorized staff to discuss the following with the education community:

- Appropriate weighting of content disciplines
- Two sets of definitions for each rating criteria
- Restrictions on the percentage of students who score in Below Basic
- The incremental rigor proposal

Definition of priority objectives for 2000-2001

The Committee identified two legislative issues:

- Development of state and local capacity to respond to and assist schools identified as Unsatisfactory;
- Consideration of the performance of student demographic groups in the absolute rating.

The Committee identified the following objectives for 2000-2001:

1. Continue the implementation of the Education Accountability Act, in accordance with the time line outlined in the 1998 legislation;
2. Persuade others to work toward our shared vision, including the promotion of a common agenda with the Governor and State Superintendent and developing strong relationships with the minority community;
3. Implement a proactive public relations effort and provide information on all EAA issues through education and engagement;
4. Support the proper and adequate intervention measures and resources to meet the goals of the accountability system, including providing information on the current or proposed approaches and advocating funding;
5. Recommend changes in EIA or EAA funding for intervention strategies, including Act 135 programs, to ensure maximum impact;
6. Determine long-term data needs and support information systems to inform decisions from the Statehouse to the classroom; and
7. Affirm our commitment to quality teaching of the standards in every classroom through provision of professional development and adequate instructional resources.

The meeting adjourned at noon on July 28.